

**REMARKS**

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 3-8, 10, 12- 15 remain in the application. Claim 1 has been cancelled by this action. Claims 2, 9 and 11 have been cancelled previously. New claims 16- 22 have been added by this action and depend from claims previously indicated to be allowable.

*Discussion under 37 CFR 1.116*

Entry of this amendment is sought under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.116. It is submitted that this amendment places the application in condition suitable for allowance and removes any remaining grounds for objection or rejection of the claims. Alternately entry of this amendment is sought for purposes of appeal as it is believed that this amendment seeks to place the application in condition more suitable for consideration on appeal by removing and/or consolidating issues to be considered on appeal. It is submitted that the proposed amendment does not present issues that would require additional search or consideration.

*Status of claims*

Claim 1 has been cancelled by this action.

Claims 3-5 have been amended to depend from independent claim 6.

Claim 6 has been amended to present minor changes, one being the removal of the feature "in which the control system includes means for signaling an operator on the detection of at least one event" which does not effect the novelty on this claim and is now set forth in newly presented claim 16.

Claim 7 has been amended to place it in better form.

Claim 8 has been amended to remove the final feature as it is believed that the claim is patentable over the cited references independent of this feature. The deleted feature is set forth in new claim 20.

Claims 10 and 12 have been amended to depend from claims 6 and 3 respectively. It is submitted that the method, limited as it is to operation of the amphibious vehicle so defined, is not taught, anticipated or rendered obvious by the cited references, taken alone or in any combination.

Claims 13 and 14 have been amended to depend from claim 7.

New claim 17 depends from claim 6 and presents the elements set forth in claim 13.

New claim 18 depends from claim 6 and presents the elements set forth in claim 14.

New claim 19 depends from claim 7 and presents the elements set forth in claim 3.

*Rejections at issue*

Claims 1, 3-4, 10, 12 and 14 currently stand rejected under 102(b) as being unpatentable over GB 449860. Claims 3-4, 10 and 12 have been amended to depend from claim 6 which has been previously held to be allowable. Similarly claim 14 depends from claim 7. Claim 1 has been cancelled by this action. It is submitted that this rejection has been addressed and overcome.

Claims 5 and 14 were considered allowable if rewritten in independent form incorporating the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Claim 5 now depends from allowed claim 6. Claim 14 now depends from allowed claim 7.

The applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 6-8 and 15 are allowable.

In summary, claim 1 has been cancelled by this action. Claims 2-8, 10, 12, 13-15 have been amended and new dependant claims 16-21 have been added. It is submitted that this

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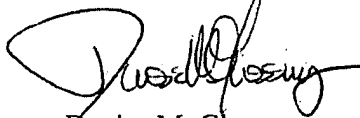
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amendment places the application in a condition suitable for allowance, a notice of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise M. Glassmeyer", written over a horizontal line.

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